interview summary OK CLS 4/19/05

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney, the undersigned, thanks the Examiner for her time and courtesy during the telephone interview on February 10, 2005 in which the rejections of the pending claims under 35 USC § 112, first and second paragraphs, as set forth in the Office Action dated August 25, 2004, were discussed.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS.

Claims 184-190, 201, and 208-216 are presently pending. Claims 191-200, 202-203, and 205-206 have been canceled herein without prejudice to subsequent renewal, including in a divisional or continuation application. Claims 184-189, 204, and 208 have been amended as discussed below. All of the amendments herein are fully supported by the specification and none of these amendments constitutes new matter as discussed in further detail below.

New dependent claims 209-216 have been added. None of these new claims presents any new matter and each is supported by the specification as filed. New claim 209, which is dependent upon claim 188, further specifies that the polypeptide induces a 4-fold increase in the proliferation of T cells in the presence of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12 compared to the proliferation of T cells induced by a p40 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12 in the presence of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12. Support for this claim is provided throughout the specification, including at, but not limited to, e.g., p. 30, line 26 to p. 37, line 7. Applicants note that the nucleic acid and polypeptide sequences of clone C2-22 are designated as SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:8, respectively, in the specification. See, e.g., pages 142 and 144 of the specification.

New claim 210, which is dependent upon claim 188, specifies a composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 188 and a carrier. Support for this claim is provided throughout the specification, including at, but not limited to, original claims 58 and 59; p. 62, lines 19-24; p. 122, lines 13-26.

New claim 211, which is dependent upon claim 210, further specifies that the composition comprises a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12. Support for this